## Message Text

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**ORIGIN NEA-12** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-10 SCS-03 SCA-01 /079 R

P R 132112Z AUG 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 160044

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PINS, IT, SY (BATES, JONATHAN)

SUBJECT: BATES CASE

- 1. DEPARTMENT HAS LETTER FROM PROFESSOR BATES DATED AUG. 3 IN WHICH HE AGAIN RAISES QUESTION OF HIS VISITING JONATHAN IN DAMASCUS. PROFESSOR WOULD GO ALONE (WITHOUT MRS. BATES) AND TRIP WOULD BE MADE ONLY IF SEPTEMBER 20 VERDICT DOES NOT RESULT IN JONATHAN'S EARLY RELEASE.
- 2. WE WOULD LIKE TO ASK ITALIANS' CONSIDERED JUDGMENT ON ADVISABILITY OF TRIP TO DAMASCUS BY PROFESSOR BATES ALONE AND AFTER SEPTEMBER 20 COURT HEARING, ASSUMING IT RESULTS IN JAIL SENTENCE OR DEFERRAL FOR SOME TIME OF VERDICT. ITALIANS SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT A) THAT BATES FAMILY WILL HAVE TO RETURN TO NEW YORK LATE IN OCTOBER, THUS TRIP TO DAMASCUS WILL BECOME MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE AND FATIGUING AFTER THAT TIME, AND B) PROFESSOR BATES' DEEP CONCERN THAT IF JONATHAN IS NOT RELEASED AFTER SEPTEMBER 20 HEARING AND HE (PROFESSOR BATES) RETURNS TO NEW YORK, HE MAY LOSE HIS LAST CONFIDENTIAL

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CHANCE TO SEE HIS SON. WOULD APPRECIATE ROME'S DISCUSSING

THIS SOONEST WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY AND BEIRUT WITH CARDILLI.

3. ROME AND BEIRUT SHOULD ASSURE ITALIANS WE HAVE VERY MUCH IN MIND THEIR ADVICE ABOUT AVOIDING ANY FURTHER DEMARCHES AND WILL OF COURSE CONSULT WITH THEM BEFORE MAKING ANY FUTURE MOVE. ONLY ACTIVITY UNDERWAY AT PRESENT TIME IS TRANSMISSION OF LETTER FROM PROFESSOR BATES TO TITO, PURSUANT TO BITAR'S SUGGESTION (BEIRUT 9002). PROFESSOR BATES HAS ALSO ASKED US FOR HELP IN LOCATING FORMER SPANISH REPUBLICAN FOREIGN MINISTER AND COMMISSAR FOR WAR JULIO ALVAREZ DEL VAYO, FROM WHOM HE WOULD SEEK TESTIMONIAL. ROGERS

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Subject: BATES CASE TAGS: CASC, PINS, IT, SY, (BATES, JONATHAN)

To: ROME BEIRUT

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